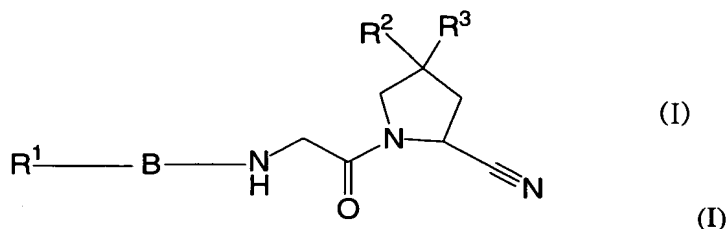


Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-29 (Cancelled)

Claim 30. (New): A compound having the formula:



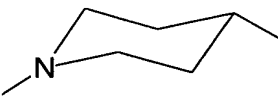
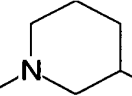
wherein

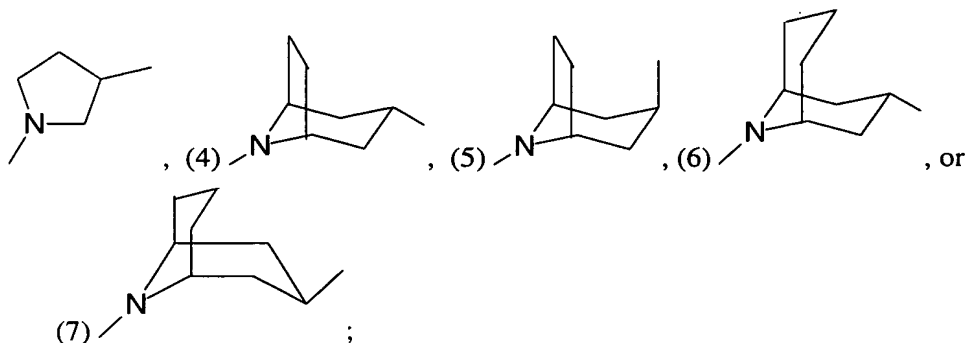
R^1 represents a nitrogen-containing aromatic moiety consisting of one or two aromatic rings; which is optionally mono- or disubstituted by a substituent independently selected from the group consisting of C1-4 alkyl, C1-4 alkoxy, halogen, trihalogenomethyl, methylthio, nitro, cyano, amino, and phenyl group; or

R^1 represents a thienyl, furyl or benzyl group; or

R^1 represents a p-toluenesulfonyl group; or

R^1 represents an acyl group of formula R_{1a} -CO, wherein R_{1a} represents a C1-4 alkyl, phenyl, piperidin-1-yl, 4-methylpiperazin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl; or phenyl, pyridyl or phenylethenyl substituted with one or more groups selected from an alkyl, alkoxy, nitro, or halogen atom; or a phenylethenyl or phenylethyl substituted with alkylene-dioxy;

B represents a group having the formula (1) , (2) , (3)



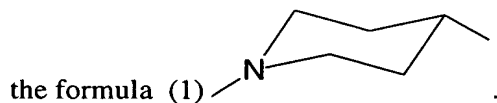
R^2 represents a hydrogen atom or a fluorine atom;

R³ represents a fluorine atom;
or a salt, isomer, tautomer, solvate, or hydrate thereof.

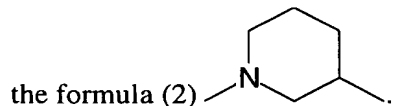
Claim 31. (New): A compound according to claim 30 wherein said nitrogen-containing aromatic moiety consisting of one or two aromatic rings is selected from the group consisting of a pyridyl, pyridazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, imidazolyl, pirazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, oxadiazolyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, cinnolinyl, phthalazinyl, quinazolinyl, quinoxalinyl, benzimidazolyl, indazolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, benzoxazolyl or benzisoxazolyl, tetrazolyl, and a triazinyl ring.

Claim 32. (New): A compound according to claim 30 wherein R¹ represents a nitrogen-containing aromatic moiety consisting of one or two aromatic rings; which is optionally mono- or disubstituted by a substituent independently selected from the group consisting of C1-4 alkyl, C1-4 alkoxy, halogen, trihalogenomethyl, methylthio, nitro, and cyano; or R¹ represents a thienyl or furyl group; or R¹ represents a p-toluenesulfonyl group; or R¹ represents an acyl group of formula R_{1a}-CO, wherein R_{1a} represents a C1-4 alkyl, phenyl, piperidin-1-yl, 4-methylpiperazin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl; or phenyl, pyridyl or phenylethenyl substituted with one or more groups selected from an alkyl, alkoxy, nitro, or halogen atom; or a phenylethenyl or phenylethyl substituted with alkylene-dioxy.

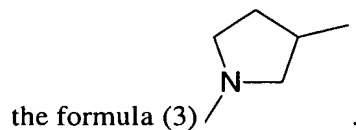
Claim 33. (New): A compound according to claim 32 wherein B represents a group having



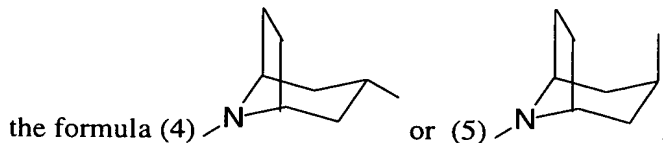
Claim 34. (New): A compound according to claim 32 wherein B represents a group having



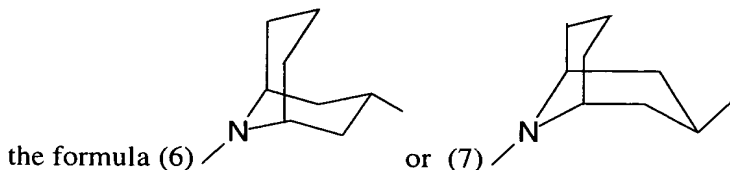
Claim 35. (New): A compound according to claim 32 wherein B represents a group having



Claim 36. (New): A compound according to claim 32 wherein B represents a group having

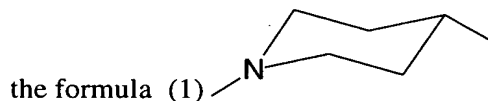


Claim 37. (New): A compound according to claim 32 wherein B represents a group having

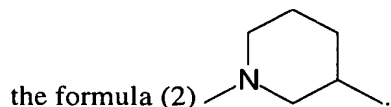


Claim 38. (New): A compound according to claim 32 wherein said nitrogen-containing aromatic moiety consisting of one or two aromatic rings is selected from a pyridyl, pyridazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, imidazolyl, pirazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, oxadiazolyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, cinnolinyl, phthalazinyl, quinazolinyl, quinoxalinyl, benzimidazolyl, indazolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, benzoxazolyl or benzisoxazolyl ring.

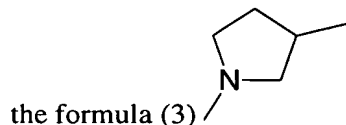
Claim 39. (New): A compound according to claim 38 wherein B represents a group having



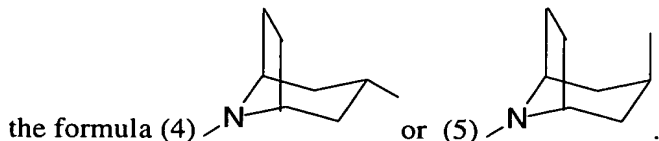
Claim 40. (New): A compound according to claim 38 wherein B represents a group having



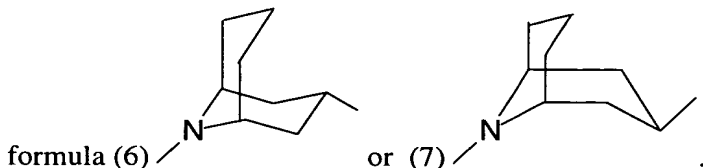
Claim 41. (New): A compound according to claim 38 wherein B represents a group having



Claim 42. (New): A compound according to claim 38 wherein B represents a group having



Claim 43. (New): A compound according to claim 38 wherein B represents a group of



Claim 44. (New): A compound according to claim 33 wherein R^1 represents 2-pyrimidinyl, 2-pyrazinyl, chloro- and cyano-substituted pyridazinyl, or cyano-substituted 2-pyridinyl; and R^2 represents a fluorine atom.

Claim 45. (New): A compound according to claim 34 wherein R^1 represents 2-pyrimidinyl, 2-pyrazinyl, chloro- and cyano-substituted pyridazinyl, or cyano-substituted 2-pyridinyl; and R^2 represents a fluorine atom.

Claim 46. (New): A compound according to claim 35 wherein R^1 represents 2-pyrimidinyl, 2-pyrazinyl, chloro- and cyano-substituted pyridazinyl, or cyano-substituted 2-pyridinyl; and R^2 represents a fluorine atom.

Claim 47. (New): A compound according to claim 36 wherein R^1 represents 2-pyrimidinyl, 2-pyrazinyl, chloro- and cyano-substituted pyridazinyl, or cyano-substituted 2-pyridinyl; and R^2 represents a fluorine atom.

Claim 48. (New): A compound according to claim 37 wherein R^1 represents 2-pyrimidinyl, 2-pyrazinyl, chloro- and cyano-substituted pyridazinyl, or cyano-substituted 2-pyridinyl; and R^2 represents a fluorine atom.

Claim 49. (New): A compound according to claim 30 selected from the group consisting of (2*S*)-4,4-difluoro-1-(2-([8-(2-pyrimidinyl)-8-azabicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-yl] *exo*-amino)acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile,

(2*S*,4*S*)-4-fluoro-1-(2-{[8-(2-pyrazinyl)-8-azabicyclo-[3.2.1]-oct-3-yl] *exo*-amino} acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile,

(2*S*)-4,4-Difluoro-1-(2-{[1-(2-pyrazinyl)piperidin-4-yl]amino} acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile,

(2*S*)-4,4-Difluoro-1-(2-{[1-(5-cyanopyridin-2-yl)piperidin-4-yl]amino} acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile,

(2*S*)-4,4-Difluoro-1-(2-{[1-(6-chloropyridazin-3-yl)piperidin-4-yl] amino} acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile, and

(2*S*)-4,4-Difluoro-1-(2-{[1-(6-cyanopyridazin-3-yl)piperidin-4-yl] amino} acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile.

Claim 50. (New): A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to claim 30 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

Claim 51. (New): A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to claim 32 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

Claim 52. (New): A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to claim 38 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

Claim 53. (New): A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to claim 39 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

Claim 54. (New): A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to claim 40 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

Claim 55. (New): A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to claim 41 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

Claim 56. (New): A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to claim 42 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

Claim 57. (New): A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to claim 43 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

Claim 58. (New): A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 50 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of

(2*S*)-4,4-difluoro-1-(2-{{[8-(2-pyrimidinyl)-8-azabicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-yl] *exo*-amino}acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile;

(2*S*,4*S*)-4-fluoro-1-(2-{{[8-(2-pyrazinyl)-8-azabicyclo-[3.2.1]-oct-3-yl] *exo*-amino}acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile;

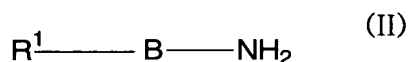
(2*S*)-4,4-difluoro-1-(2-{{[1-(2-pyrazinyl)piperidin-4-yl]amino}acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile;

(2*S*)-4,4-difluoro-1-(2-{{[1-(5-cyanopyridin-2-yl)piperidin-4-yl]amino}acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile;

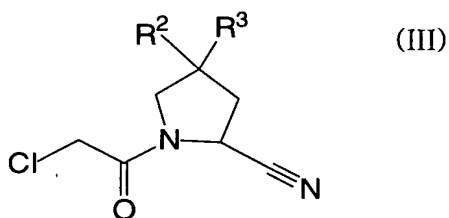
(2*S*)-4,4-difluoro-1-(2-{{[1-(6-chloropyridazin-3-yl)piperidin-4-yl]amino}acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile; and

(2*S*)-4,4-difluoro-1-(2-{{[1-(6-cyanopyridazin-3-yl)piperidin-4-yl]amino}acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile.

Claim 59. (New): A process for the preparation of a compound according to claim 30, wherein a compound having the formula (II):



is reacted with a compound of the formula (III):



wherein R^1 , B, R^2 and R^3 are as defined in claim 30.

Claim 60. (New): A method for the treatment or prevention of diseases related to DPP-IV enzyme activity which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 30.

Claim 61. (New): A method for the treatment or prevention of diseases related to DPP-IV enzyme activity which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 32.

Claim 62. (New): A method for the treatment or prevention of diseases related to DPP-IV enzyme activity which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 38.

Claim 63. (New): A method according to claim 60 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

(2*S*)-4,4-difluoro-1-(2-{{[8-(2-pyrimidinyl)-8-azabicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-yl] *exo*-amino}acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile;

(2*S*,4*S*)-4-fluoro-1-(2-{{[8-(2-pyrazinyl)-8-azabicyclo-[3.2.1]-oct-3-yl] *exo*-amino}acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile;

(2*S*)-4,4-difluoro-1-(2-{{[1-(2-pyrazinyl)piperidin-4-yl]amino}acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile;

(2*S*)-4,4-difluoro-1-(2-{{[1-(5-cyanopyridin-2-yl)piperidin-4-yl]amino}acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile;

(2*S*)-4,4-difluoro-1-(2-{{[1-(6-chloropyridazin-3-yl)piperidin-4-yl] amino}acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile; and

(2*S*)-4,4-difluoro-1-(2-{{[1-(6-cyanopyridazin-3-yl)piperidin-4-yl] amino}acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile.

Claim 64. (New): A method for the treatment or prevention of diabetes comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to claim 30.

Claim 65. (New): A method for the treatment or prevention of diabetes comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to claim 32.

Claim 66. (New): A method for the treatment or prevention of diabetes comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to claim 38.

Claim 67. (New): A method according to claim 64, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

(2*S*)-4,4-difluoro-1-(2-{{[8-(2-pyrimidinyl)-8-azabicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-yl] *exo*-amino}acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile;

(2*S*,4*S*)-4-fluoro-1-(2-{{[8-(2-pyrazinyl)-8-azabicyclo-[3.2.1]-oct-3-yl] *exo*-amino}acetyl)-2-pyrrolidinecarbonitrile;

(2*S*)-4,4-difluoro-1-(2-{{[1-(2-pyrazinyl)piperidin-4-yl]amino}acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile;

(2*S*)-4,4-difluoro-1-(2-{{[1-(5-cyanopyridin-2-yl)piperidin-4-yl]amino} acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile;

(2*S*)-4,4-difluoro-1-(2-{{[1-(6-chloropyridazin-3-yl)piperidin-4-yl] amino}acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile; and

(2*S*)-4,4-difluoro-1-(2-{{[1-(6-cyanopyridazin-3-yl)piperidin-4-yl] amino}acetyl)-2-pyrrolidine carbonitrile.

Claim 68. (New): A compound having the formula (II):



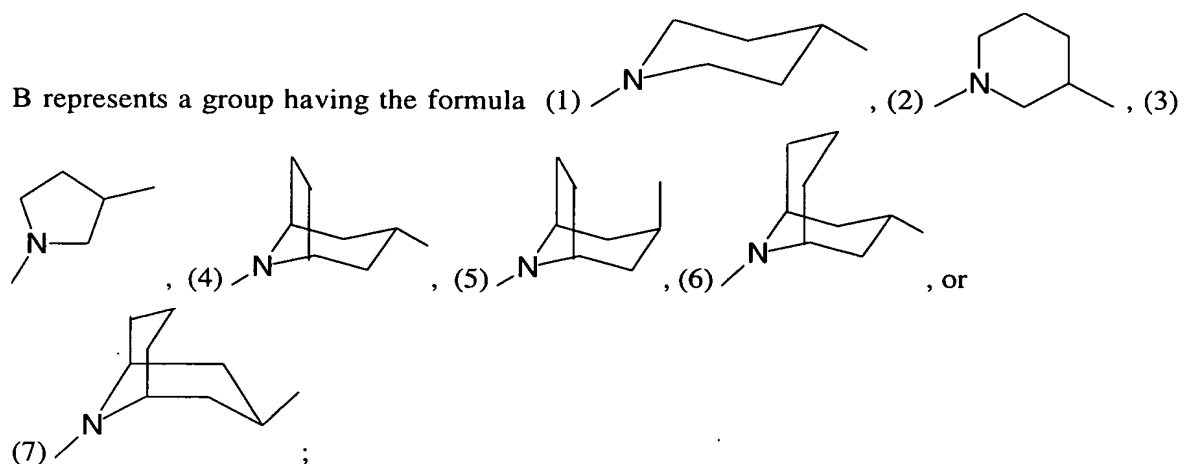
wherein

R^1 represents a nitrogen-containing aromatic moiety consisting of one or two aromatic rings; which is optionally mono- or disubstituted by a substituent independently selected from the group consisting of C1-4 alkyl, C1-4 alkoxy, halogen, trihalogenomethyl, methylthio, nitro, cyano, amino, and phenyl group; or

R^1 represents a thienyl, furyl or benzyl group; or

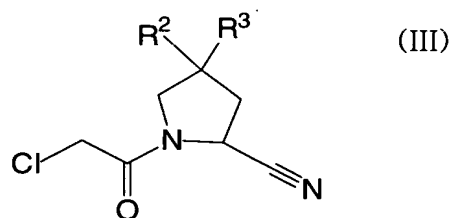
R^1 represents a p-toluenesulfonyl group; or

R^1 represents an acyl group of formula $R_{1a}\text{---}CO$, wherein R_{1a} represents a C1-4 alkyl, phenyl, piperidin-1-yl, 4-methylpiperazin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl; or phenyl, pyridyl or phenylethenyl substituted with one or more groups selected from an alkyl, alkoxy, nitro, or halogen atom; or a phenylethenyl or phenylethyl substituted with alkylene-dioxy; and



or an isomer or salt thereof.

Claim 69. (New): A compound having the formula (III):



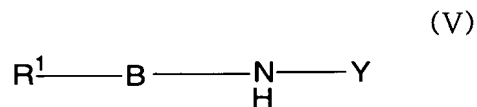
wherein

R² represents a hydrogen atom or a fluorine atom; and

R³ represents a fluorine atom;

or an isomer thereof.

Claim 70. (New): A compound having the formula (V):

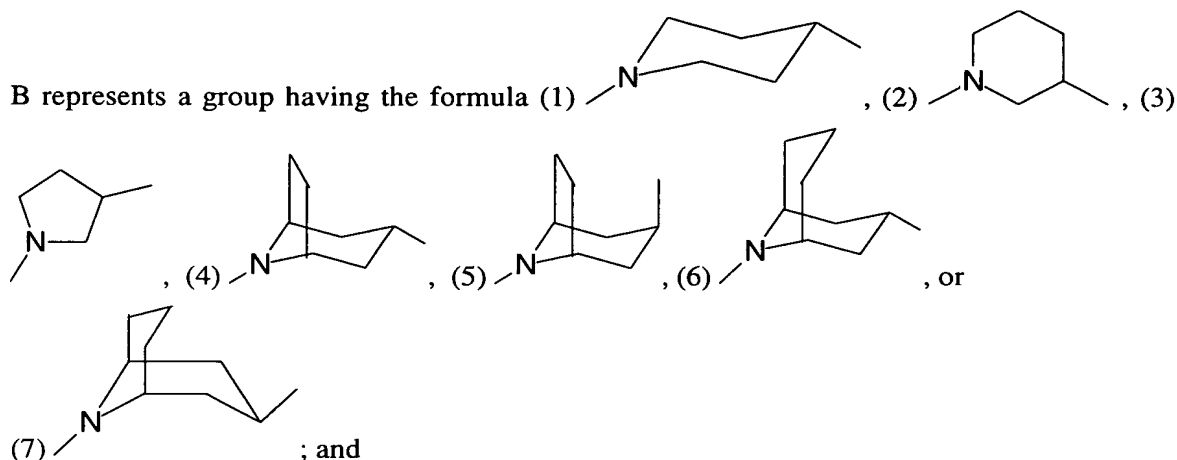


wherein R¹ represents a nitrogen-containing aromatic moiety consisting of one or two aromatic rings; which is optionally mono- or disubstituted by a substituent independently selected from the group consisting of C1-4 alkyl, C1-4 alkoxy, halogen, trihalogenomethyl, methylthio, nitro, cyano, amino, and phenyl group; or

R¹ represents a thienyl, furyl or benzyl group; or

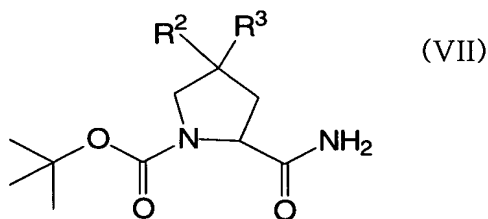
R¹ represents a p-toluenesulfonyl group; or

R^1 represents an acyl group of formula $R_{1a}-CO$, wherein R_{1a} represents a C1-4 alkyl, phenyl, piperidin-1-yl, 4-methylpiperazin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl; or phenyl, pyridyl or phenylethenyl substituted with one or more groups selected from an alkyl, alkoxy, nitro, or halogen atom; or a phenylethenyl or phenylethyl substituted with alkylene-dioxy; and



Y represents an acetyl or *tert*-butoxycarbonyl group; or an isomer or salt thereof.

Claim 71. (New): A compound having the formula (VII):



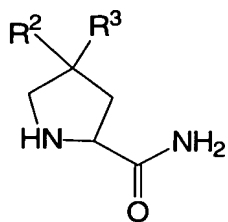
wherein

R^2 represents a hydrogen atom or a fluorine atom; and

R^3 represents a fluorine atom;

or an isomer thereof.

Claim 72. (New): A compound having the formula:



wherein

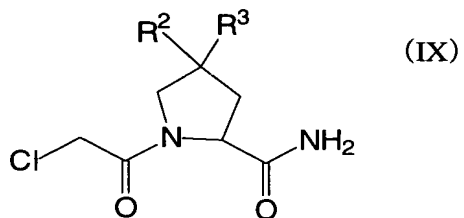
R² represents a hydrogen atom or a fluorine atom; and

R³ represents a fluorine atom;

or an isomer or salt thereof.

Claim 73. (New): A compound according to claim 72 in the form of a hydrochloride salt.

Claim 74. (New): A compound having the formula (IX):



wherein

R² represents a hydrogen atom or a fluorine atom; and

R³ represents a fluorine atom;

or an isomer thereof.